THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI) : (a) and (b) Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) bus stops are part of right of way on a road and the same are required to be provided by Delhi Transport Corporation. Delhi Development Authority is not to provide any space for the bus stop.

Accidents in Coal Mines :

1160. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state.

(a) whether Coal Mines Trade Unions have expressed serious concern over increased accident rate in coal mines despite Government's asurances to the contrary (F.E. 26-3-89); and

(b) whether the number of accidents in open coal mines has also reached alarming proportion due to failure of safety regulations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHAKRISHAN MALAVIYA): (a) and (b) The number of fatal and serious accidents in the open cast coal mines and in all coal mines during the last five years is given below:—

Year	Number of fatal accidents		Number of serious accidents	
	Open cast Coal Mines	All Coal Mines (including open cast coal mines)	Open cast coal mines	All Coal Mines (including open cast coal mines)
1984	27	160	46	1,196
1985	22	176	52	1,007
1986	27	180	51	1,167
1987	27	162	33	910
1988* . . .	27	160	35	790

*Provisional

It may be seen from the above Table that while the number of fatal accidents in open cast coal mines has remained static during the last few years, the number of serious accidents in these mines has declined. The figures of fatal and serious accidents in the coal mines taken together have also declined during the last two years.

The Seventh Conference on Safety in Mines held on 19th and 20th December, 1988 made several recommendations for improving the status of safety in open cast mines. These recommendations related to framing of (i) a Code of Traffic for regulating the movement of Heavy Earth Moving Machinery, (ii) a Code of Pratice for prevention of injuries to persons engaged in tipping on stock piles, dumping of overburden at dump yards, at loading points etc., (iii) Codes of Practice for (a) dealing with fires, (b) laying down the design and maintenance of haul roads, (c) drawing up and implementing schemes for proper maintenance, repair,

overhaul and erection of heavy earth moving machinery, (d) selection of qualified operators/drivers for heavy earth moving machinery, (e) provision of suitable training centres for operators/drivers and (f) prvision of sufficient lighting arrangements etc. The recommendations of the Conference have been sent to the mine managements, State Governments, Trade Union Organisations, Employers' Organisations and law enforcement agencies for appropriate action.

Implementation of Metro Rail in Delhi

1161. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that the Railay Board had suggested acceptance of Soviet offer for building rail metro services in Delhi and if so, the reasons that the above proposal has not been accepted and implemented so far, as appreared in Times of India of 27th March, 1989 ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government are negotiating with Canadian Government for metro services thereby delaying implementation of Soviet offer for metro services; and

(c) whether Canada's metro services are considered superior to that of Soviet metro services and if so, the comparative details there of ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Both the Canada and the Soviet Union have advanced mass rapid transit technologies. A detailed feasibility report is being prepared by the Rail India Technical & Economic Service Ltd. (RITES) for mass transit system in Delhi. Decisions on foreign technical and financial assistance will depend on consideration of the feasibility report.

Ban on advertisements of Pan Parag and Parag Zarda

1162. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BRAODCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received suggestions from Consumer Groups for imposing ban on various Pan Parag and Parag Zarda preparation on TV/ADV. and the print media and if so, the details thereof and action taken/proposed to be taken in view of the association of cancer ingredients in their preparation ; and

(b) whether Government propose to seek evidence and views of public interest organisations/institutions including those involved in research in these areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.K. TEWARY) : (a) and (b) A few Consumer Groups have requested the Government for imposing a ban on advertisements of various Pan Masalas and Pan Zarda preparations through media. The Government consulted the Indian Council of Medical Research which is of the opinion that unless carefully controlled epidemiological studies are done, it is extremely difficult to estabilsh conclusively the carcinogenic effects of these products.

Besides, public opinion and views expressed through various fora are taken note of by Government for appropriate further action.